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(54) Title: **DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPEUTICS FOR DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH N-ACETYLATED ALPHA-LINKED  
ACIDIC DIPEPTIDASE 2 (NAALADASE 2)**

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a human NAALADASE 2 which is associated with the cardiovascular diseases, dermato-  
logical diseases, gastroenterological diseases, cancer, hematological diseases, neurological diseases, urological diseases, respiratory  
diseases and reproduction disorders. The invention also provides assays for the identification of compounds useful in the treat-  
ment or prevention of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, gastroenterological diseases, cancer, hematological diseases,  
neurological diseases, urological diseases, respiratory diseases and reproduction disorders. The invention also features compounds  
which bind to and/or activate or inhibit the activity of NAALADASE 2 as well as pharmaceutical compositions comprising such  
compounds.

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